

Attachment B to 188-C8g

RET

STOCKHOLM-TIMING. December 6, 1945.

1. Translation of remarks written in exceedingly bad German on top of the article following below:

- 1) An idealistic Communist agent (Social Democrat) is going to America.
Secret Lettish "Government" - L.O.P. (collaborators) M. Uakste, General Tepfer, Kreicberg, A. Osolinsch etc. - (patronize) recommend him. However, the Swedes do not know the truth - here and in Latvia - year 1940, and defend /him/.
The Latvians fear Bruno Kalnins.
We only draw your attention to this!

A Latvian. 31.VII.47.

2. Translation from Swedish of front page article with picture (and the above remarks):

POLITICAL SOVIET GENERAL HERE AS A REFUGEE. MAKES TO UNDEN BAL TIC RE-PORTS.

Who is Bruno Kalnins enjoying the utmost confidence of the Swedish Government on account of his "Social-Democratic" merits? He is the son of the "Latvian Branting" Dr. Paul Kalnins, and was a leader of the Latvian Social-Democratic Youth Movement.

Came to Sweden from a German concentration camp. Presents now every week to the Foreign Ministry a Baltic press review. However, he in 1940 obtained the rank of a Political General in the Red Army, and was thus at that time no more a Social Democrat, but a Communist. The press review to Foreign Minister Udden is thus being compiled by a Soviet-Latvian Chief Politruk.

See further page 13.

3. Summary of article on page 13:

BRUNO KALNINS WAS 1940 CHIEF POLITRUK OF THE SOVIET-LATVIAN ARMY.

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 3828
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

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SECRET

(BRUNO KALNINS 1940 CHIEF POLITRUK OF SOVIET-LATVIAN ARMY).

SUMMARY:

Calls himself a Doctor, but was only an undergraduate. Made 1940 after the establishment of Soviet-Latvia Political Leader of the Soviet-Latvian Army, and later on Professor of Communist Party History at the University of Riga.

Earlier leader of the Social-Democratic Youth Organization SSS (Labor Sport and Defense) of a radical tendency. At a search made at night between May 14-15, 1934, by Ulmanis' national insurgents, a store of arms was discovered with the SSS. K. was convicted to 3 years hard labor and to loose his Latvian citizenship. After release he went to Czechoslovakia, Sweden and Finland, where he in 1939 worked at the Spanish Legation.

After the incorporation of Latvia with the Soviet Union K. returned to Riga, and was somewhat later made Chief Politruk in the uniform of a Soviet-Russian General.

In an interview published on July 27, 1940, in the Soviet-Latvian paper "Rits" K. among other things said: At the Army Club yesterday the first course of instruction for divisional and regimental political leaders was completed. The number of political leaders in the army is to be 73, divided between all its units. We have up to the present not had any proper means of instruction, except newspapers. I have, however, ordered the Red Army hand-book to be translated into Latvian, and it will be available in 10 days.

When the Germans, after the outbreak of the Soviet-German war, came to Latvia, K. remained in Riga. By the by, however, he was taken to the German concentration camp at Stutthof, where he was an "Ehrenhaftling" (honorary prisoner). He wore a special sleeve-bandage, received better food, could move himself without restriction in the whole camp. Reason given: help rendered at a critical moment to some important pro-German Latvian officers.

In connection with the collapse of Germany K. went to Denmark, where he obtained an entrance visa to Sweden in the result of direct intervention from the part of Swedish Government circles.

K. stands almost completely isolated among the Latvian refugees in Sweden. He has obtained permission to form in Sweden a Social-Democratic association. The undertakings of K. have caused among the Baltic refugees great anxiety, as it is feared that he in an unfortunate manner is influencing the policies of the Swedish Government. -

(over).

SECRET

SECRET

STOCKHOLMS-TIDNINGEN, December 8, 1945.

Reply of Bruno Kalnins and observations of the paper
to the same.

1. Translation of remarks written in German on top and on the back of cutting following below:

- 2) Valdis Palma may be a more subtle Communist agent -
for money.

We have reasons to suspect /him/.

A Latvian.
31.VII.47.

(Back):

3. V. Palma is working at the American Consulate - Standby. 7 A.

2. Summary of article:

KALNINS ASSERTS IN LETTER TO STOCKHOLMS-TIDNINGEN
THAT HE PETITIONED FOR THE BALTIC.

K. says he has seen Foreign Minister Undén only once, when he begged Undén not to extradict to the Soviet Union the 157 Balts interned in Sweden. - Confirmed by Foreign Minister Undén to Morgon-Tidningen.

K. calls the foregoing article "a perfidious attack from Latvian fascist quarters!" - The paper remarks that the fact that K. is calling everyone not in accord with his views "a fascist" is precisely one of the reasons causing anxiety in Latvian circles. People uncomfortable to K. have been banished from Stockholm, thus, for instance, certain collaborators to the paper "Latvju Vargs", as was the case with the well-known Professor Straubergs.

K. says he returned to Riga not after the incorporation of Latvia by the Soviet Union, but on July 3, 1940, or a month before the incorporation.

He accepted the post of Leader for Culture and Propaganda of the Latvian Popular Army in accordance with a corresponding decision of the Social-Democratic Party Committee. He was not Professor of History of the Communist Party, but was commissioned to read a paper on Russian constitutional and criminal law. To this the paper remarks that such a paper necessarily involved in the first place Communism.

K. says he was dismissed on June 17, 1941. Denies that he ever was a Communist. The paper, however, observes that on August 10, 1940, he opened a congress of representatives of Communist Youth cells in the army.

Says he became a Bachelor of Law 1934 in Riga, and presented his doctor's dissertation 1944. The paper observes that he was 1934 convicted to 3 years imprisonment.